IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) [An] A sustained release ophthalmic pharmaceutical composition in the form of an aqueous gel, a pourable aqueous dispersion, or anhydrous salt, for controlling and lowering intraocular pressure comprising:

a [basic active] therapeutically effective amount of a beta blocker of the formula:

$$R^1\text{-}O\text{-}CH_2\text{-}CH(OH)\text{-}CH_2\text{-}NR^2R^3$$

wherein R^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted cyclic or aliphatic moiety, and R^2 and R^3 are independently selected from H and substituted and unsubstituted alkyl;

an amount of an anionic mucomimetic polymer having carboxylic acid functional groups which comprise from 2 to 7 carbon atoms per functional group and a molecular weight of from 50,000 to 6 million such that the composition in the form of an aqueous gel or pourable aqueous dispersion has a viscosity of about 1 to about 20,000 cps.; [,] and a cation exchange resin at a concentration of from about 0.05% to 10.0% by weight, the composition having a pH of from about 3.0 to 8.5.

Cancel claim 3.

4. (Amended) The composition according to claim [3] 1 wherein the [basic active] beta blocker is betaxolol.

5. (Amended) The composition according to claim [3] 1 wherein the [basic active] beta blocker is timolol.

6. (Amended) The composition of claim [3] 1 wherein the [basic active is selected from pilocarpine, epinephrine, propepinephrine, norepinephrine, pronorepinephrine, clonidine, p-aminoclonidine, p-acetoamidoclonidine, or a] beta-blocker is selected from betaxolol, timolol, acebutolol, alprenolol, atenolol, bevantolol, bucomolol, bupranolol, butidrine, bunitolol, bunolol, butoctolol, butoamine, carazolol, carteolol, exaprolol, indenolol, iprocrolol, labetolol, mepindolol, metipranolol, metaprolol, moprolol, nadolol, nifenalol, oxprenolol, pamatolol, paragolol, penbutolol, pindolol, practolol, procinolol, pronethalol, propranolol, sotalol, tazolol, tiprenolol, tolamolol, toliprolol, befunolol, esmalol, hepunolol, celiprolol, azotinolol, diacetalol, acebutolol, salbutanol and isoxaprolol.

7. (Amended) A method of treatment for controlling and lowering intraocular pressure [comprising] which comprises administering topically to the affected eye a pharmaceutical composition which includes:

a [basic active] therapeutically effective amount of a beta blocker of the formula:

$$R^1\text{-}O\text{-}CH_2\text{-}CH(OH)\text{-}CH_2\text{-}NR^2R^3$$

wherein R^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted cyclic or aliphatic moiety, and R^2 and R^3 are independently selected from H and substituted and unsubstituted alkyl;

an amount of an anionic mucomimetic polymer having carboxylic acid functional groups which comprise from 2 to 7 carbon atoms per functional group and a molecular weight of from 50,000 to 6 million such that the composition in the form of an aqueous gel or pourable aqueous dispersion has a viscosity of about 1 to about 20,000 cps.; [,] and a cation exchange resin at a concentration of from about 0.05% to 10.0% by weight, the composition having a pH of from about 3.0 to 8.5.

10. (Amended) The method according to claim 9 wherein the [basic active] beta blocker is betaxolol.

11. (Amended) The method according to claim 9 wherein the [basic active] beta blocker is timolol.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 9 wherein the [basic active is selected from pilocarpine, epinephrine, proepinephrine, norepinephrine, pronorepinephrine, clonidine, p-aminoclonidine, p-acetoamidoclonidine, or a] beta-blocker is selected from betaxolol, timolol, acebutolol, alprenolol, atenolol, bevantolol, bucomolol, bupranolol, butidrine, bunitolol, bunolol, butocrolol, butoamine, carazolol, carteolol, exaprolol, indenolol, iprocrolol, labetolol, mepindolol, metipranolol, metaprolol, moprolol, nadolol, nifenalol, oxprenolol, pamatolol, paragolol, penbutolol, pindolol, practolol, procinolol, pronethalol, propranolol, sotalol, tazolol, tiprenolol, tolamolol, toliprolol, befunolol, esmalol, hepunolol, celiprolol, azotinolol, diacetalol, acebutolol, salbutanol and isoxaprolol.

Please add the following claims:

13. A method according to claim 7 wherein the beta-blocker is present at a concentration of from about 0.01 to 4.0 wt.%.

14. A method according to claim 7 wherein the anionic mucomimetic polymer comprises carbomer.

15. A method according to claim 7 wherein the cation exchange resin comprises sodium poly(styrene-divinylbenzene) sulfonic acid.

16. A method according to claim 7 wherein the beta-blocker is betaxolol present at a concentration of about 0.25 wt.%, the anionic mucomimetic polymer is carbomer present at a concentration of about 0.20 wt.%, and the cation exchange resin is sodium poly(styrene-divinylbenzene) sulfonic acid present at a concentration of about 0.25 wt.%.

17. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the beta-blocker is present at a concentration of from about 0.01 to 4.0 wt.%.

18. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the anionic mucomimetic polymer comprises carbomer.

19. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the cation exchange resin comprises sodium poly(styrene-divinylbenzene) sulfonic acid.

20. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the beta-blocker is betaxolol present at a concentration of about 0.25 wt.%, the anionic mucomimetic polymer is carbomer present at a concentration of about 0.20 wt.%, and the cation exchange resin is sodium poly(styrene-divinylbenzene) sulfonic acid present at a concentration of about 0.25 wt.%.

21. A sustained release ophthalmic pharmaceutical composition in the form of an aqueous gel, a pourable aqueous dispersion or anhydrous salt for controlling and lowering intraocular pressure comprising:

a therapeutically effective amount of a drug selected from the group consisting of pilocarpine, epinephrine, proepinephrine, norepinephrine, pronorepinephrine, clonidine, p-aminoclonidine and p-acetoamidoclonidine; and

an amount of an anionic mucomimetic polymer having carboxylic acid functional groups which comprise from 2 to 7 carbon atoms per functional group and a molecular weight from 50,000 to 6 million such that the composition in the form of an aqueous gel or pourable aqueous dispersion has a viscosity of about 1 to about 20,000 cps.; and

a cation exchange resin at a concentration of from about 0.05% to 10% by weight, the composition having a pH of from about 3.0 to 8.5.

22. A method of treatment for controlling and lowering intraocular pressure which comprises administering topically to the affected eye a pharmaceutical composition which comprises:

a therapeutically effective amount of a drug selected from the group consisting of pilocarpine, epinephrine, proepinephrine, norepinephrine, pronorepinephrine, clonidine, p-aminoclonidine and p-acetoamidoclonidine; and

an amount of an anionic mucomimetic polymer having carboxylic acid functional groups which comprise from 2 to 7 carbon atoms per functional group and a molecular weight from 50,000 to 6 million such that the composition in the form of an aqueous gel or pourable aqueous dispersion has a viscosity of about 1 to about 20,000 cps.; and

a cation exchange resin at a concentration of from about 0.05% to 10% by weight, the composition having a pH of from about 3.0 to 8.5.